

had made a determination that a lot of the work that had previously been given to the Professional Practices Commission was now being done by people in the Department of Education and we've used General Fund money to fund that requirement. To make the now reduced, the reduced fee that goes to the Professional Practices Commission cash flow for a couple of years, and this will only cash flow for a couple of years, we need to make this reduction so that they're not spending as much and they aren't spending at their old level. At the conclusion, the Education Committee is going to hold a public hearing this summer. We will conduct a study, make a determination as to what changes, if any, we need to make in the Professional Practices Commission that can better accommodate its new workload, but if they spend what is currently in the Appropriations Committee this year and the appropriations bill, if they spend all of that this year, they will have spent more than they will have in their cash fund even using up their reserve, if they do that for the next two years. So this amendment decreases their budget and I would urge your adoption.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Before I proceed to the next speaker, I would like to introduce some guests of Senators Ashford and Will. There are 46 fourth graders from the Harrison School in Omaha and their teachers and they are in the south balcony. Would you folks please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thank you for being with us. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support Senator Withem's amendment regarding the Professional Practices Commission. I think, given the fact that the body chose to decrease the amount of the fee going to the PPC, it would be necessary that if you're going to decrease the revenue stream, you ought to decrease the appropriation accordingly and I think Senator Withem's amendment does that. The only thing I would add that I think Senator Withem may have just touched on briefly is that I think that this body and particularly members of the body interested in the education aspect of things, we need to in the year...in the upcoming biennium we need to take a look at this Professional Practices Commission and decide what it is we want it to be and how it is we want to fund it. And I think if there are some problems with what the Professional Practices Commission is doing, then it should be thoroughly reviewed and we should have some statutory changes in the PPC to make it better reflect what it is we want it to do. On the other hand, if you're not going to make those changes, I think you should